

Urbana, Maryland vicinity

Frederick County, Maryland

Private

The Hope Hill Colored School is a frame, two-room schoolhouse with an entrance foyer located on the south side of Fingerboard Road at Hopeland Road. Built about 1890, it is a good example of the two-room plan school with folding doors separating the two classrooms, blackboards, tongue-and-groove wainscoting, and circa 1920's hanging lamp fixtures. It is one of two known surviving 19th century black rural schools in Frederick County. Currently on the market, the school may be endangered by future development.

Survey No. F-7-37
Hope Hill Colored School
Urbana, Maryland vicinity
Frederick County, Maryland

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery Counties,
and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Urban/Industrial Dominance 1870-9130 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning
Social, Educational, Cultural

Resource Type:
Category: Building

Environment: Rural

Function & Use:
Education/school/schoolhouse

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Hope Hill Colored School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Fingerboard Road & Hopeland Road, southwest corner ☐ not for publicationcity, town Urbana ☒ vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: not in use

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. Joseph R. Lee (deceased) and Jennie Lee

street & number Rt. 2, Box 181 telephone no.:

city, town Frederick state and zip code MD 21701

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber

street & number 100 W. Patrick St. folio

city, town Frederick state MD 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition

☐ excellent

☐ good

☒ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

(Typed on separate sheet)

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Ca. 1890 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

(Typed on separate sheet)

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10. Geographical Data

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

B

Zone Easting Northing

D

F

H | | | | |

Concurrent with Tax Map 95, Parcel 31

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

city or town Frederick state MD 21701

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
301-514-7600**

7.1 Description

The Hope Hill Colored School is a circa 1890 frame, two-room schoolhouse with clapboard siding and a gable roof located on the southwest corner of Fingerboard Road at Hopeland Road near Urbana, Maryland. The school has a projecting foyer entrance on the south elevation. Chimneys project from the east and west gable ends of the standing seam roof. The two sections of the school have three window bays with 6/6 wood sash, most of which is greatly deteriorated. The school is located on a hilly site near a small rural church which has used the school in the past as a recreational and educational building.

The Hope Hill School has a two-room interior plan with the foyer serving as the access to both rooms. The center wall between the two rooms has folding wood paneled doors. Blackboards line both rooms and a chair rail extends around the walls, which are painted plaster over lath with a tongue-and-groove wainscot. The interior as well as the exterior were extremely deteriorated at the time of survey. Debris and peeling paint were scattered throughout the building. Hanging light fixtures in the inverted dome design typical of schoolhouses were still in place; these appear to be circa 1920's in date.

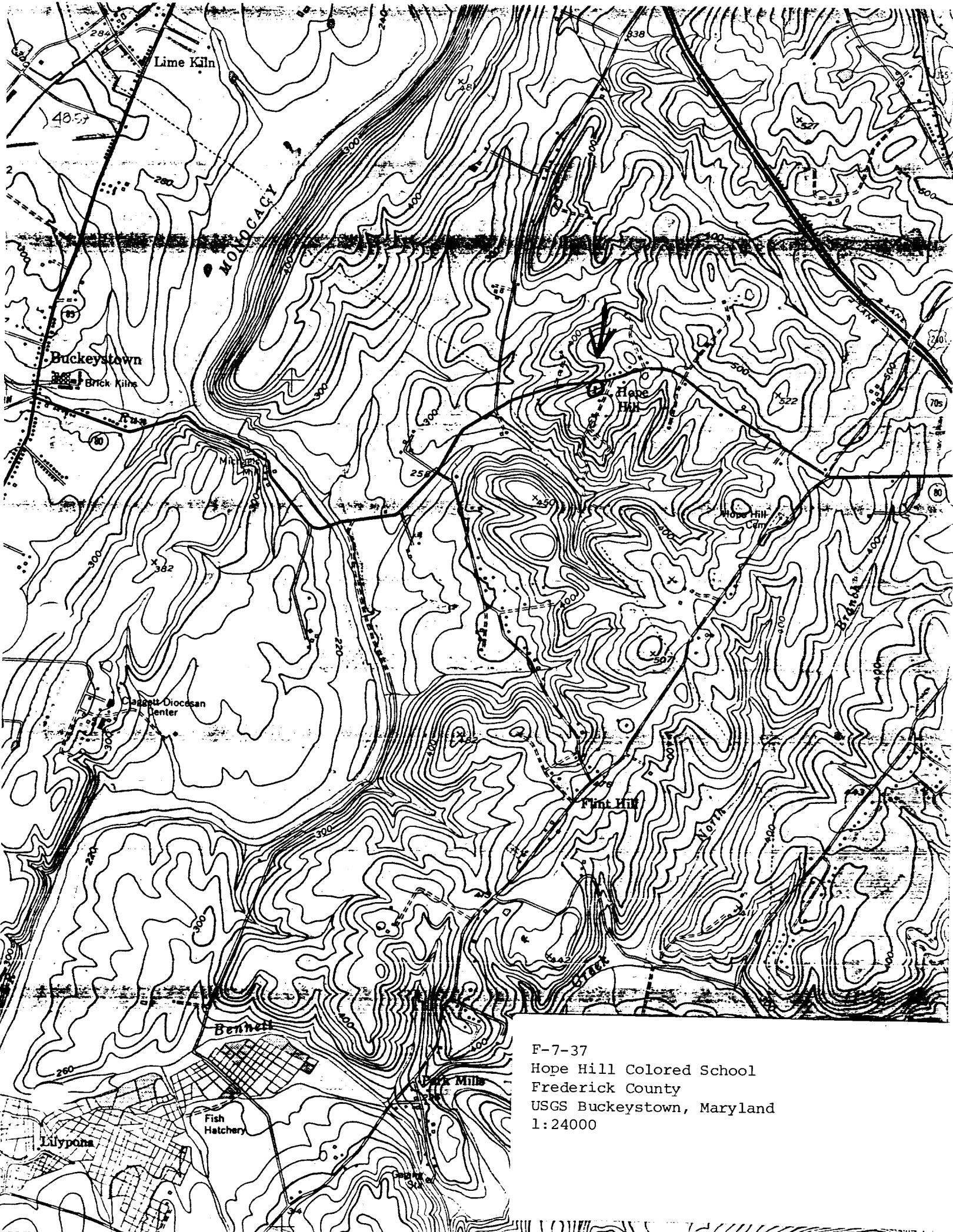
8.1 Significance

The Hope Hill Colored School is a good representative of the two-room schoolhouse type of the last quarter of the 19th century. It is one of two known surviving colored schools of the 19th century in rural locations in Frederick County. The other school, near Mountville, has been reported, but not identified by survey.

The 19th century schools built after the Emancipation Proclamation have not been documented as a group; however, information received from Mr. Lord Nickens, the NAACP President in Frederick County, indicates that many have been demolished since the 1960's and the integration of local schools.

The 1873 C.O. Titus Atlas of Frederick County shows a colored school on the north side of Fingerboard Road near the site of Hope Hill School. This was probably the predecessor of the existing building. There is no evidence visible in the building to indicate that it was not built on the site. The two-room configuration may also be an indicator of its late 19th century date, as this plan seems to be more common in the known surviving schools of the period.

The Hope Hill School is currently being marketed for sale and it is not likely that the building will be retained after sale. Further documentation of its interior and exterior and more research on its history should be done prior to demolition, removal, or extensive rehabilitation.



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Hope Hill Colored School
Frederick County
USGS Buckeystown, Maryland
1:24000





